

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claim 18 for lack of an enabling disclosure as the feature d) "*inhibiting movement of a clock if the error rate is zero*" is not supported by the description.

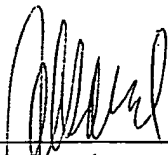
In response, feature d) of claim 18 was amended to read: "*inhibiting movement of a counter if the error rate is zero*". This is the same amendment as for the previously amended and now allowed claim 25 and is based on the original claim 34 and, as pointed out by the Examiner, on page 12, lines 3-4 of the PCT specification.

The Examiner also rejected claim 18 as being obvious over Traa. In the analysis provided by the Examiner, the feature d) was not included. Applicants believe, however, that with the feature d) amended as explained above, claim 18 is both novel and inventive over Traa as it is with the corresponding apparatus claim 25.

In view of the indicated allowance of claims 25 and 27-33, an early passage of this case to the Issue Branch is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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